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THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Because there was not sufficient money in the Harijan Welfare Fund, it was thought that we could get this done from the Famine Fund."

Agricultural implements and electrical goods stored in Andhra areas.

* 843-A *Q*.—SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that stores including agricultural implements and electrical goods were moved during the last two months from areas in Andhra to areas in residuary Madras, if so, what is the total value of such goods moved; and for what purposes they were moved?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative; the other parts of the question therefore do not arise. Instructions have been issued to Heads of Departments that there should be no room given even for suspicion of this kind. They have been requested to give their personal attention to this matter and to see that subordinate officers do not order any movements of valuable machinery or stores which are not necessary in the course of ordinary maintenance or for sanctioned works or schemes. Heads of Departments have also been told that they should not order any movements of machinery or stores on any substantial scale without the previous approval of the Government. We have got reports, Sir, to show that no transport of machinery or stores from the residuary Madras area to the Andhra area or *vice versa* has been made in the Electricity Department. The position of the Food and Agricultural Department is also the same."

SRI K. RAJAGOPALA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. the Chief Minister looked into the press reports in which it is categorically stated that lorries of the Civil Supplies Department were transferred very recently from the Vijayavada unit to the Madras unit? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I will make a statement with regard to that when the concerned adjournment motion comes up before the House."

SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH :—" Is it not a fact that electrical goods from Pakala in Chittoor district have been transferred to the residuary State very recently? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" As far as I could get information and give information, I have done it already, Sir. If any particular instances are brought to my notice, I shall make an enquiry."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Has the division of the movables between the two States already commenced? " 8-40 a.m.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" No, Sir. The point is that they think that we are stealing."

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SRI M. HANUMANTHA RAO :—" Do the Government deny that three tractors were carried from Vijayavada to Madras recently? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I have already stated that merely making an allegation is of no use. I would like to have definite information about the allegations or suspicions and then I will make enquiries."

Purchase of Comer Chassis.

* 843-B *Q.*—SRI M. VEERABHADRAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have placed orders through the South India Automotive Corporation, Limited, to buy Comer Chassis; and

(*b*) if so, for how many and at what cost?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) Orders were placed for the supply of 35 chassis at a cost not exceeding Rs. 25,379 per chassis for delivery at Madras. As a result of the Government of India's decision to reduce import duty on motor vehicles, the suppliers have subsequently agreed to allow a reduction of Rs. 2,340 in the price of each chassis imported after the reduction in import duty."

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM :—" Who are the directors of this concern? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I should like to have notice of a separate question."

SRI C. V. K. RAO :—" Has this South India Automotive Corporation ever been dealing in the sale of chassis and may I know if Mr. Muthiah Chettiar, Raja of Chettinad, has anything to do with this company? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" I think the question becomes personal."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I will answer the first part of the question. This company is dealing in the Buick group of vehicles—Comer, Hillman and other products of the Buick group."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" With regard to the remark which has just been made by the Hon. Speaker, I think a Member is entitled to know whether any sitting Member of this House has got any connexion with any particular firm with which the Government have dealings. I do not think it can be classed merely as a personal question. I would like to say that the Hon. Minister might answer the question."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am not aware of any such connexion. If the hon. Member puts a separate question, I will make enquiries and answer."